

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 047596  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER:RVC

APPROVED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER

S:AB:DHPOPER

S:S:O:SGOLDSMITH

-----008869 240047Z /70

O 240028Z FEB 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047596

STADIS//////////

EXDIS FOR AMB. JORDEN FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, PEPR

SUBJECT: SENATOR ALLEN'S AMENDMENT

REF: STATE 46039

1. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT SENATOR ALLEN WILL BRING TO  
A VOTE A SO-CALLED "KILLER" AMENDMENT TO THE NEUTRALITY  
TREATY NEXT MONDAY. THE AMENDMENT WOULD ADD AT THE  
END OF ARTICLE 1 THE FOLLOWING:

"PROVIDED, THAT THE MILITARY PRESENCE OF THE UNITED STATES  
IN WHAT WAS THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1977,  
SHALL BE CONTINUED BEYOND DECEMBER 31, 1999, IF THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES DEEMS IT NECESSARY FOR  
THE DEFENSE OF THE CANAL OR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE NEU-  
TRALITY THEREOF AND SHALL PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, 1999, SO  
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PAGE 02 STATE 047596

CERTIFY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA."

2. IT IS HARDLY NECESSARY TO TELL YOU THAT THE ALLEN  
AMENDMENT IS COMPLETELY INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE TREATY.  
THE VOTE ON IT WILL BE THE FIRST CRUCIAL TEST VOTE ON  
THE TREATIES, AND WE WILL PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS TO  
DEFEAT IT. TO THAT END, WE ARE CONSIDERING SUGGESTING

TO ONE OF THE UNCOMMITTED SENATORS THAT HE STATE DURING  
THE DEBATE THAT AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME HE WILL OFFER  
AN UNDERSTANDING ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

"THAT ARTICLE V DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE TWO PARTIES FROM  
NEGOTIATING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE CON-  
STITUTIONAL PROCESSES, AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING TO THE  
REPUBLIC OF PANAMA AFTER THE YEAR 2000 SUCH  
US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AS THE PARTIES MIGHT CONSIDER  
DESIRABLE TO CARRY OUT THEIR MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES  
UNDER ARTICLE IV TO MAINTAIN THE REGIME OF NEUTRALITY  
OF THE CANAL, AND THE UNITED STATES SHALL INITIATE  
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA ON THIS SUBJECT  
NOT LATER THAN ONE YEAR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE  
PANAMA CANAL TREATY."

3. KNOWING FROM YOUR PRIOR MESSAGES THAT SUCH AN  
UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DIGEST IN PANAMA,  
WE NEVERTHELESS WANT YOUR CURRENT APPRAISAL AND YOUR  
SUGGESTIONS, ON AN URGENT BASIS, BY SECURE TELEPHONE  
OR IMMEDIATE CABLE. VANCE  
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PAGE 03 STATE 047596

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMENDMENTS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, NEUTRALISM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE047596  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WCHRISTOPHER:RVC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780085-0046  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** bdbc38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 46039  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3484747  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SENATOR ALLEN'S AMENDMENT  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PGOV, MASS, PN, US, (ALLEN, JAMES B)  
**To:** PANAMA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/bdbc38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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